

## AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for rendering a graphical user interface (GUI), comprising:
  - providing for [[the]] a representation of the GUI as a set of controls wherein the controls are organized in a logical hierarchy;
  - traversing the representation, wherein the traversing comprises:
    - associating a theme with a first control in the set of controls;
    - rendering the first control according to the theme;
    - rendering any descendents of the first control according to the theme;
  - wherein any descendents of the first control can override the theme; and
  - wherein one of the set of controls can communicate with another of the set of controls.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:
  - one of the set of controls can respond to an event raised by another of the set of controls.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:
  - a control can have an interchangeable persistence mechanism.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:
  - a control can have an interchangeable rendering mechanism.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - accepting a request.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein:
  - the request in a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) request.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein:  
the request originates from a Web browser.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
generating a response.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
an control can represent one of: button, text field, menu, table, window, window control, title bar, pop-up window, check-box button, radio button, window frame, desktop, shell, head, body, header, footer, book, page, layout, placeholder, portlet and toggle button.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
associating the theme with the first control can occur when the first control is rendered.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
the first control inherits the theme from a parent control.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
the theme specifies the appearance and/or functioning of an control in the GUI.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
rendering the first control according to the theme can be accomplished in parallel with rendering of other controls.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
the theme can be specified in whole or in part by a properties file.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein:  
the properties file can include at least one of: 1) cascading style sheet; 2) Java Server Page; 3) Extensible Markup Language; 4) text; 5) Hypertext Markup

Language; 6) Extensible Hypertext Markup Language; 7) JavaScript; and 8) Flash MX.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein:  
the properties file can specify at least one image.
17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
the GUI is part of a portal on the World Wide Web.
18. (Original) A method for rendering a graphical user interface (GUI),  
comprising:  
accepting a request;  
mapping the request to a set of controls that represent the GUI, and wherein  
the controls are organized in a logical hierarchy;  
traversing the representation, wherein the traversing comprises:  
associating a theme with a first control in the set of controls;  
rendering the first control according to the theme;  
rendering any descendents of the first control according to the theme;  
and  
wherein any descendents of the first control can override the theme.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
the request in a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) request.
20. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
the request originates from a Web browser.
21. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:  
generating a response.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 18 wherein:  
one of the set of controls can respond to an event raised by another of the set  
of controls.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 18 wherein:  
a control can have an interchangeable persistence mechanism.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 18 wherein:  
a control can have an interchangeable rendering mechanism.
25. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
an control can represent one of: button, text field, menu, table, window, window control, title bar, pop-up window, check-box button, radio button, window frame, desktop, shell, head, body, header, footer, book, page, layout, placeholder, portlet and toggle button.
26. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
associating a theme with the first control can occur when the first control is rendered.
27. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
the first control inherits the theme from a parent control.
28. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
the theme specifies the appearance and/or functioning of an control in the GUI.
29. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
rendering the first control according to the theme can be accomplished in parallel with rendering of other controls.
30. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
the theme can be specified in whole or in part by a properties file.
31. (Original) The method of claim 30 wherein:  
the properties file can include at least one of: 1) cascading style sheet; 2) Java Server Page; 3) Extensible Markup Language; 4) text; 5) Hypertext Markup

Language; 6) Extensible Hypertext Markup Language; 7) JavaScript; and 8) Flash MX.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30 wherein:  
the properties file can specify at least one image.
33. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein:  
the GUI is part of a portal on the World Wide Web.
34. (Currently Amended) A method for rendering a graphical user interface (GUI), comprising:  
Providing for a a ~~the~~ representation of the GUI as a plurality of controls wherein the controls are organized in a logical hierarchy;  
traversing the representation, wherein the traversing comprises:  
    associating a first theme with a first control in the plurality of controls;  
    rendering the first control according to the first theme;  
    associating a second theme with a second control in the plurality of controls;  
    rendering the second control according to the second theme; and  
wherein the second control is a descendant of the first control.
35. (Original) The method of claim 34, further comprising:  
accepting a request.
36. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein:  
the request in a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) request.
37. (Original) The method of claim 35 wherein:  
the request originates from a Web browser.
38. (Original) The method of claim 34, further comprising:  
generating a response.
39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 34 wherein:

the first control can respond to an event raised by the second control.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 34 wherein:  
an control can have an interchangeable persistence mechanism.
41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 34 wherein:  
an control can have an interchangeable rendering mechanism.
42. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein:  
an control can represent one of: button, text field, menu, table, window, window control, title bar, pop-up window, check-box button, radio button, window frame, desktop, shell, head, body, header, footer, book, page, layout, placeholder, portlet and toggle button.
43. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein:  
the first control inherits the first theme from a parent control.
44. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein:  
the first theme specifies the appearance and/or functioning of the first control in the GUI.
45. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein:  
the rendering the first control can be accomplished in parallel with the rendering of the second control.
46. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein:  
a theme can be specified in whole or in part by a properties file.
47. (Original) The method of claim 46 wherein:  
the properties file can include at least one of: 1) cascading style sheet; 2) Java Server Page; 3) Extensible Markup Language; 4) text; 5) Hypertext Markup Language; 6) Extensible Hypertext Markup Language; 7) JavaScript; and 8) Flash MX.

48. (Original) The method of claim 46 wherein:  
the properties file can specify at least one image.
49. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein:  
the GUI is part of a portal on the World Wide Web.
50. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a processor cause a system to:  
provide for [[the]] a representation of the GUI as a set of controls wherein the controls are organized in a logical hierarchy;  
traverse the representation, wherein the traversing comprises instructions to cause the system to:  
associate theme with a first control in the set of controls;  
render the first control according to the theme;  
render any descendents of the first control according to the theme;  
wherein any descendents of the first control can override the theme; and  
wherein one of the set of controls can communicate with another of the set of controls.
51. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
one of the set of controls can respond to an event raised by another of the set of controls.
52. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
a control can have an interchangeable persistence mechanism.
53. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
a control can have an interchangeable rendering mechanism.
54. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50, further comprising instructions that when executed cause the system to:  
accept a request.
55. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 54 wherein:

the request in a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) request.

56. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 54 wherein:  
the request originates from a Web browser.
57. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50, further comprising  
instructions that when executed cause the system to:  
generate a response.
58. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
an control can represent one of: button, text field, menu, table, window,  
window control, title bar, pop-up window, check-box button, radio button, window  
frame, desktop, shell, head, body, header, footer, book, page, layout, placeholder,  
portlet and toggle button.
59. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
associating the theme with the first control can occur when the first control is  
rendered.
60. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
the first control inherits the theme from a parent control.
61. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
the theme specifies the appearance and/or functioning of an control in the  
GUI.
62. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
rendering the first control according to the theme can be accomplished in  
parallel with rendering of other controls.
63. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
the theme can be specified in whole or in part by a properties file.
64. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 63 wherein:



the properties file can include at least one of: 1) cascading style sheet; 2) Java Server Page; 3) Extensible Markup Language; 4) text; 5) Hypertext Markup Language; 6) Extensible Hypertext Markup Language; 7) JavaScript; and 8) Flash MX.

65. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 63 wherein:  
the properties file can specify at least one image.

66. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 50 wherein:  
the GUI is part of a portal on the World Wide Web.

67. (Canceled)